

6 May 1953

Honorable Robert T. Stevens

Secretary of the Army

Dear Mr. Stevens:

I am advised that my special assistant, Mr. William F. Friedman, presently a Lieutenant Colonel in the Honorary Reserve of the Army, has applied to the Army Board on Correction of Military Records to correct what I consider to be an injustice done him in April of 1941, when he was relieved from active duty and his Reserve commission was terminated because of what was then referred to as an anxiety reaction but which was of temporary nature. This action was taken without reference to an Army Retirement Board, as was then provided by regulations.

Colonel Friedman has for over 33 years held a very highly classified position in Government service, either in a military or civil status. After his Reserve commission was terminated he served with great honor during the entire period of the war, though in a civilian capacity. The importance of his accomplishments in his field of work is attested to by two citations and medals: in 1944 he received the War Department's highest civil award, the Medal for Exceptional Civilian Service, and in 1946 he was among the first to be awarded the U. S. Government's highest award for civilian service, the Medal for Merit, bestowed by the President.

He is seeking to have his Reserve commission reinstated as of the date of its termination and to have it remain effective until the latest date permissible under pertinent regulations and statutes.

This, of course, would make him eligible, after he leaves the Government service as a civilian, to receive Reserve retirement pay. As it is, he lacks about two and one-half months of attaining the 20 years required for Reserve retirement, under Title III, Public Law 810 - 80th Congress. The action which he seeks to have you take, through the Army Board on Correction of Military Records, is solely for the purpose of correcting this serious injustice. He is certainly worthy of every consideration which can be shown him.

Sincerely,

151 RALPH J. CANINE

RALPH J. CANINE
Lieutenant General, US Army
Director